

Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF TODD GALE

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Todd Gale. Mr. Gale was an outstanding Mississippian and I join his loved ones in mourning his loss.

Todd was born in Columbus, Mississippi on October 9, 1968. He was educated at Heritage Academy before matriculating to Mississippi State University where he studied Landscape Architecture. After graduating, he joined the United States Forest Service in Ketchikan, Alaska.

Todd Gale married Stephanie McLain on July 16, 1994. With her support, Todd earned his Masters Degree in Economic Development from the University of Southern Mississippi. He soon became the General Manager of Columbus Light and Water. He served on the boards of the Tennessee Valley Public Power Association and American Public Power Association. Todd was a community servant and was active on the boards of Main Street Columbus, Columbus Lowndes Humane Society, Mississippi University for Women Advisory Board and St. Paul's Episcopal Church Vestry and Junior Warden.

Left to cherish Todd's memory are his wife, Stephanie; children, Stormy and Gunnar; and his godchildren. Todd was a beloved member of the Columbus community and a man dedicated to his family and faith. He will be deeply missed.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MS. SUSAN SHANK

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Ms. Susan Ann Shank who passed away on January 17, 2021 at the age of 70. I send my condolences and prayers to her family and friends.

Susan was born and raised in Biloxi, Mississippi. Susan was the mother of Michael Wills and Angela Hoener. Susan faithfully served the City of Biloxi Police Department Communication Division from March 26, 1987, until retiring on November 26, 2013.

In Susan's twenty-six years of dedicated service, she achieved the position of Floor Supervisor and received many written commendations from citizens for her professional service. Mr. Andrew "FoFo" Gillich, Mayor of Biloxi, commemorated and commended the lifelong devotion of Susan by declaring January 17th as "Susan Ann Shank Day".

Susan will be remembered by her family and friends who knew her best for her devotion to the state of Mississippi, her faith, accomplishments, and devotion to others.

While we are saddened by her passing, we take comfort in her example of a life well lived and the legacy she leaves behind. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Mississippi, we honor the memory of Ms. Susan Ann Shank, a loving wife, a dedicated civil servant, and a woman of God.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LAUREN BOEBERT

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mrs. BOEBERT. Madam Speaker, I was participating in a Natural Resources Committee Forum and asking my invited witness questions and missed the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 118, H.R. 1195.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JACOB BURNS

HON. TROY BALDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jacob Edward Burns. Jacob, 35, passed away Saturday, April 3, 2021 as the result of an automobile accident. He was born August 26, 1985 in Zanesville to David and Bonnie Burns.

Jacob was a Philo graduate and retired as a Staff Sergeant from the United States Air Force on November 27, 2019. He had a strong relationship with his military brothers, while serving he was a Combat Arms Instructor and was known around the world for his knowledge. Jacob was a remarkable husband and father. I mourn with his family and I am thankful for his service.

FAITH WALKER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Faith Walker for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Faith Walker is a 7th grader at Bennett Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Faith Walker is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Faith Walker for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF WALTER GANN

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Corporal Walter Gann, an American hero and an outstanding representation of the state of Mississippi.

Walter Gann was born on January 31, 1922 to John and Mary Rogers Gann. He spent the first eighteen years of his life in Calhoun City, Mississippi. Only July 3, 1941 he joined the United States Army Air Forces in Jackson, Mississippi and was soon deployed to the Philippines. At eighteen years old Walter faced attack by the Japanese Imperial Army. After several months of battle with minimal food, supplies, and medical care, the American soldiers were forced to surrender; the Bataan Death March began on April 9, 1942. Corporal Gann, enduring shrapnel wounds and malnutrition, marched 65 miles in the blistering heat.

It is believed Corporal Gann arrived at Fukuoka POW Camp No. 1 on Kyushu Island where he faced barbaric treatment from Japanese guards. He was eventually transported to Japan; Gann and his fellow soldiers stood shoulder to shoulder on the Japanese hell ship. Men died by the dozens of suffocation, starvation, and dysentery. In Japan, Corporal Gann was a POW for three and a half years.

Corporal Gann was released upon American Victory and was immediately treated in a Washington hospital before returning home. His family rejoiced to see him alive and safe. He was called to testify in the war crime trials following WWII but could not attend because he was hospitalized. For the remainder of his life Corporal Gann bore the weight of all he had witnessed.

In 1949 Walter moved to Booneville, Mississippi and married Juanita Goddard. Together they raised four children. In August of 1963 his wife passed, and in November of that year his son was killed in a motorcycle accident. In 1970 he moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee until his death on October 14, 1980. He was laid to rest at Crossroads cemetery in Jumpertown, Mississippi with his wife and son.

In the course of his life Corporal Gann was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, a Purple Heart, the WWII Victory Medal, an A.P. Theater Medal with 1 Bronze Star, the American Defense Medal with 1 Bronze Star, and the Philippine Liberation Medal with 1 Bronze Star. He also received a letter from President Harry S. Truman thanking him for his service to the United States.

I am grateful for the service of Corporal Walter Gann and admire his commitment to faith, family, and country.

HONORING JAMES WHITE

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 19, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of James White